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DEC 09 2009

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:	
Foley Leigh Marquess, et al.	:	
Application No. 10/803,713	:	ON PETITION
Filed: March 18, 2004	:	
Attorney Docket No. MER 03-014CIP	:	

This is a decision in response to the petition, filed October 2, 2009, to revive the above-identified application under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b).

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application became abandoned for failure to timely file a reply within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.113 to the final Office action of September 4, 2008, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extension of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) was obtained. Accordingly, the application became abandoned on December 5, 2008. A Notice of Abandonment was subsequently mailed on July 7, 2009. On October 2, 2009, the present petition was filed.

The petition is not signed by a registered attorney or agent of record. However, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.34(a), the signature of M. Scott McBride appearing on the petition shall constitute a representation to the United States Patent and Trademark Office that he/she is authorized to represent the particular party on whose behalf he/she acts. A courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to petitioner. However, if Attorney McBride desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney or authorization of agent must be submitted. All future correspondence regarding this application file will be directed solely to the address of record.

A grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by: (1) the required reply, unless previously filed; (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m); (3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional; and (4) any terminal

disclaimer (and fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(d)) required by 37 CFR 1.137(d). Where there is a question as to whether either the abandonment or the delay in filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137 was unintentional, the Director may require additional information. See MPEP 711.03(c)(II)(C) and (D).

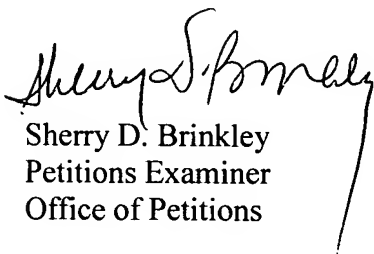
Petitioner seeks revival solely for obtaining copendency with a continuation application filed March 3, 2009, in that the necessary continuity was not maintained at that time.

In order to facilitate action, the petition to revive should include reference to the filing of a continuing application *and* a letter of express abandonment, conditional upon the granting of the petition and of a filing date to the continuing application. Nevertheless, the statement in the petition will be construed as a request to expressly abandon this application in favor of the continuing application. If this was not the intent of applicant, the Office should be promptly notified.

The petition, as construed, satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of a continuation application under 37 CFR 1.53(b); (2) the petition fee of \$810; and (3) an adequate statement of unintentional delay¹.

This application is being revived solely for the purpose of continuity with the Application No. 12/396,804, filed March 3, 2009. As continuity has been established by revival of this application, this application is again abandonment in favor of continuing Application No. 12/396,804.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3204.


Sherry D. Brinkley
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

¹ 37 CFR 1.137(b)(3) requires a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. While the statement is not made by an attorney of record, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.